

Post 2006 Initiative Workshop Process- “Rules of the Road”

- The issues included in the Final Issues List will be divided between 5 working groups (e.g., Procurement, Rates, Competitive Issues, Utility Service Obligations, and Energy Assistance) .
 - Participation in each working group is open to all. However, the working groups are **working** groups and all participants will be expected to actively contribute to the discussion and resolution of issues. No matter how many individuals from a stakeholder wish to participate, each stakeholder should designate one "lead" per working group who should be authorized to receive materials related to that group.
 - Each working group will have a convener/reporter. This convener/reporter is not a “chair” – it is not their job to enforce “rules of order” or to limit discussion. Nor will they have any special power over the resolution of issues. It will also be a real working position, requiring significant and dedicated effort. The convener/reporter will be expected to schedule and secure locations for group meetings, issue agendas listing which particular issues are to be taken up at each meeting, circulate minutes of the meetings reflecting any agreements reached for approval by the group, and report bi-weekly on the progress of the group and any approved items of consensus. The convener/reporter will also prepare monthly reports and a final report. Guidelines for the reports will be handed out at the first workshop. Working group conveners/reporters are encouraged to coordinate to avoid any schedule overlap. Each group will be given a preferred day of the week to schedule workshops. You can schedule a meeting on a day other than your preferred day, but you must coordinate with the other conveners.
- * Each working group will have a convener/reporter selected from those persons who submit a letter of interest by April 15, 2004. Letters of Interest should be sent to sgutilla@icc.state.il.us. Each Letter of Interest should include working group, name, address, phone, fax, and e-mail address.
- The first workshop date is listed below. All initial workshops will take place at the Illinois Commerce Commission in the Main Hearing Room. All other schedules will be set by the convener.

Monday: Procurement (May 10, 2004 at 10:00 a.m.)

Tuesday: Rates (May 4, 2004 at 10:00 a.m.)

Wednesday: Competitive Issues (May 12, 2004 at 10:00 a.m.)

Thursday: Utility Service Obligations (May 13, 2004 at 10:00 a.m.)

Friday: Energy Assistance (May 14, 2004 at 10:00 a.m.)

- In addition to the convener/reporter each group will be assigned a Commission Staff person. The Staff member will work closely the convener/reporter.
- Positions and questions on issues to be discussed should be considered prior to each working group meeting. You do not need to submit any additional written materials before the workshops. Participants should be ready to work. Only persons with knowledge and authority should attend.
- The April 22 written comments may, but need not, propose responses to some or all of the specific issues on the final issues list. However, the workshops are intended to be opportunities to learn and engage in productive compromise. No single participant will have all the answers going in.
- The goal of each working group is to achieve consensus on as many substantive issues as possible. Substantive agreements must be by consensus, not weight of opinion. Where consensus is not possible on a result, the group should nonetheless reach consensus on a precise definition of the remaining issue and a list of the possible resolutions (without attribution).
- A final report from each group will be due September. Meetings should be held as often as required to complete the task. In most cases, we expect meetings will occur weekly. Meetings should be held in both the Chicago area and central/southern Illinois (e.g., Springfield, Decatur, Peoria).
- As we go through this process issues will come to light relative to the need for action by either the Legislature and/or State Agencies. In that event, a Governmental Working Group will be formed to assist in the implementation of the working groups' work product.
- Many of the questions we will be discussing simply cannot productively be examined without a frank discussion of confidential information critical to stakeholders' businesses and interests. Therefore, confidentiality of legitimately proprietary information must be protected within the open process. A group of stakeholder attorneys will work with the Commission's General Counsel to identify a workable confidentiality agreement. Having such an agreement available will permit stakeholders to circulate proprietary information among signatories with the protections afforded to such information under the Public Utilities Act preserved. Therefore, no conference call-in will be allowed for the workshops.